

AL-VI-D-227

1910-1923

Westernport Bridge
vicinity of Westernport
public (unrestricted)

The Westernport Bridge, which carries Route 36 across the Potomac River from Westernport, Maryland into Piedmont, West Virginia, consists of three matching steel Pratt through trusses, each 135 feet in length and 17 feet in width, with a two lane roadway. The bridge's overall configuration, with the central truss in a level position, and the end trusses rising up to it, is rare in Maryland.

Erected between 1910-1923, the bridge is a visual reminder of the cooperative roadbuilding programs which existed between Maryland and West Virginia in the early 20th century. As with the Paw Paw Bridge (AL-I-C-064), the bridge was designed in part by the Allegany County Road Directors, with Clinton Uhl, Chairman and D.P. Lefever, Engineer.

This bridge represents one of two historic truss bridges -- part of Maryland's state road system in Allegany County, and one of 26 bridges of the same structural type throughout the state road network -- identified by the Maryland Historical Trust for the Maryland Department of Transportation in a jointly conducted survey during 1980-81.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Westernport Bridge

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Westernport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Allegany**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☒ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

State Highway Administration

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

301 West Preston Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

☒ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

21201

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AC-111-2-227

CONDITION☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Westernport bridge carries Maryland Route 36 across the Potomac River into Piedmont, West Virginia, in a generally N-S direction. It consists of three matching steel pratt through-trusses, 135' in length each, with a 2 lane roadway, 17' in width. The truss ends rest on concrete piers. Walk-ways are cantilevered on the outside of the trusses along both sides of the bridge. All connections are reveted. There are three bridge plaques, one on the Maryland Portal, two on the West Virginia Portal (see significance). The three trusses do not lie on the same plane; the central is level, and the end trusses rise up to it,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1910-1923

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Vincennes Bridge Co.
Vincennes, Indiana
State of W. Va. State Roads
Standard Design No. 970

This particular overall configuration is rare in Maryland (see also general truss bridge significance). The bridge plaques on the end portals suggest the extent of cooperation between the two states which was required for the construction of the bridge. On the West Virginia side, the plaques read:

(left)
1924
Mineral County
State Design
970

and (right):

Mineral Co, Court
George T. Carskadon, Pres.
A.L. Thrush
L. Frank Jenkins
built by
Vincennes Bridge Co.
Vincennes, Indiana

and on the right of the Maryland Portal:

Allegany County Road Directors
Clinton Uhl, Chairman
J. Glenn Beall
Joseph J. Dinger
Randolph Millholland
D.P. Lefever, Engineer
built by, etc.

The plans available at the Md. State Highway Administration were produced in the offices of the W. Va. State Roads Commission.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10-10-887

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

see continuation sheet.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

N/A

17.6 100.42 100.42

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	West Virginia	COUNTY	Mineral
STATE		COUNTY	

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
John Hnedak/M/DOT Survey Manager

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
1980

STREET & NUMBER
21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

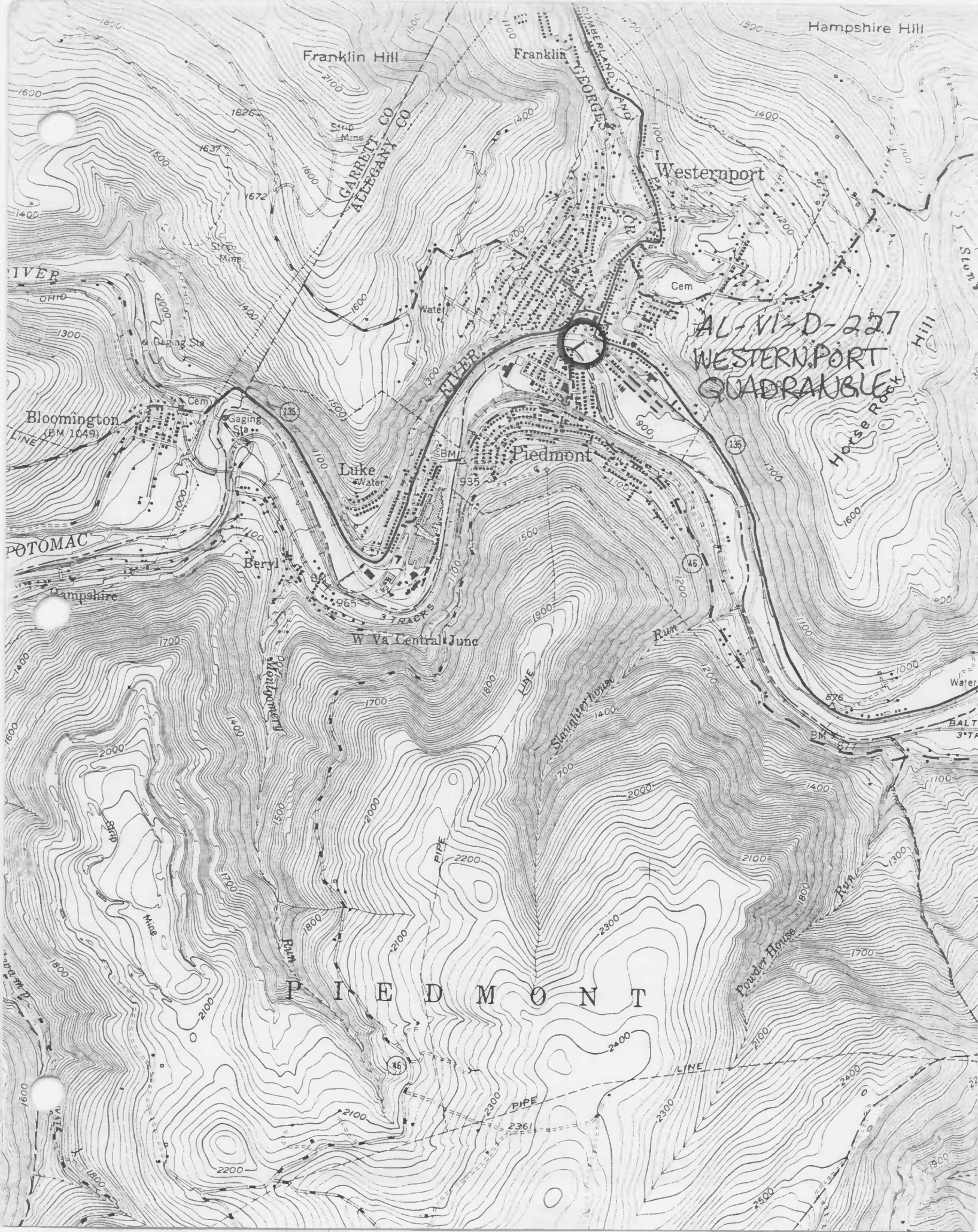
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

AL-VI-D-227
Westernport Bridge

9. Bibliography

Condit, Carl, American Building Art, 20th Century;
New York, Oxford University Press, 1961.

Records of the Bridge division of the State Highway
Administration of Maryland.





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Westernport Bridge
M/DOT
Hnedak/Meyer
Summer 1980



NEW
W. J. R. H. A.
M. V. AND

AL-VI-D-227

Westernport Bridge

M/DOt

Hnedak/Meyer

Summer 1980